REMEDIAL SITE ASSESSMENT DECISION - EPA REGION I

EPA ID: MAD980503510 **Site Name:** HOLDEN LANDFILL **State ID:**

Alias Site Names:

City: HOLDEN **County or Parish:** WORCESTER **State:** MA

Refer to Report Dated: **Report Type:** SITE REASSESSMENT 001

Report Developed by: START

DECISION:

- ☐ **1. Further Remedial Site Assessment under CERCLA (Superfund) is not required because:**
  - ☐ **1a. Site does not qualify for further remedial site assessment under CERCLA (No Further Remedial Action Planned - NFRAP)**
  - ☐ **1b. Site may qualify for action, but is deferred to:**
- ☒ **2. Further Assessment Needed Under CERCLA:**
  - **2a. Priority:** ☐ Higher ☒ Lower
  - **2b. Other: (recommended action)** Low

DISCUSSION/RATIONALE:

An EPA contractor reviewed the last available report, contacted state and EPA representatives, and produced a fact sheet for this, and approximately 700 other Region 1 sites. This effort was entered into WasteLAN/CERCLIS as a Site Reassessment (code "OO"). For most of these sites, the entry date was August 2001. This copy is the Site Reassessment product of 2001. Subsequent changes to the site fact sheet may be made in order to keep the information current, however the revised fact sheets will only be available via the Region 1 website.

Site Decision Made by: NANCY SMITH

Signature: Nancy Smith **Date:** 08/02/2001

EPA Form # 9100-3

SEMS DocID 637798

Holden Landfill
Holden, Massachusetts

CERCLIS No. MAD980503510
Site ID No. 0100637

The Holden Landfill (landfill) property is located on River Street in Holden, Worcester County, Massachusetts. The property is comprised of approximately 25 acres, with the landfill comprising 15 acres. The property is identified by the Town of Holden Tax Assessors' Office on Map No. 81, as Parcel Nos. 3 and 4. The property is located within a primarily undeveloped area and is bordered to the southeast by River Street, and on all other sides by undeveloped land. A pond is located directly west of the landfill, and the Quinapoxet River flows within 1,200 feet north of the landfill. A borrow pit is located east of the landfill.

The property is owned by the Town of Holden and was used as a sand and gravel operation prior to the landfill operations that began in 1955. From 1955 until 1970, the landfill was owned by the town, but privately operated as an open-face burning dump. From 1970 until approximately 1991, the landfill was owned and operated by the Town as a municipal landfill, using the cut and fill landfilling technique. Types and quantities of waste disposed at the landfill are not well characterized, but the landfill was developed to receive mixed municipal refuse, and some industrial wastes were reportedly disposed of at the landfill.

Several previous investigations were conducted at the landfill from 1980 through 1995 by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), EPA contractors, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Quality Engineering [(MA DEQE), now the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MA DEP)], and private consultants. During the course of these investigations, several groundwater, surface water, and sediment samples were collected. Selected samples collected during these sampling events were analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semivolatile organic compounds (SVOCs), pesticides/polychlorinated biphenyls (pest/PCBs), and metals. VOCs and metals were detected above reference criteria in groundwater, surface water, and sediment samples. No SVOCs or pest/PCBs were detected above reference criteria in samples that were analyzed for those parameters.

Groundwater beneath the property is approximately 5 feet below ground surface, and groundwater flow direction at the property is toward the northeast and the Quinapoxet River. An estimated 20,582 people are serviced by public and private drinking water wells within 4-radial miles of the property. Eight public wells, serving an estimated 18,175 people, are located within 4-radial miles of the property. The nearest private well is located approximately 0.3 miles southwest of the property. Based on analytical results from groundwater sampling events, groundwater beneath the property has been impacted by a release of hazardous substances which are attributable to on-site sources; however, no impacts to public or private drinking water supply wells have been documented.

The surface water pathway from the property consists of a leachate stream, the Quinapoxet River, Wachusett Reservoir, and the Nashua River. The surface water pathway contains fisheries, approximately 1.6 miles of wetland frontage, a Clean Water Act (CWA)-protected water body, and habitats for 18 State-designated endangered or threatened species. A drinking water intake is located approximately 7.6 miles downstream of the property that serves approximately 12,500 people in Clinton, Massachusetts and contributes to the water supply for the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA). Based on sediment analytical results, a release of hazardous substances from on-site sources to a CWA-protected water body has been documented; however, the surface water intake and other targets such as fisheries and wetlands have not been impacted.

Three people work at the landfill 2 days per week for 4 consecutive weeks per year. No residences, schools, or day-care facilities are located within 200 feet of the property. The nearest residence is located approximately 0.3 miles from the property. An estimated 668 people reside within 1-radial mile of the property, and an estimated 25,180 reside within 4-radial miles. No known surface soil sampling has been conducted at the landfill; therefore, no impacts to nearby residential populations or terrestrial sensitive environments have been documented.

The landfill owners periodically monitor the air vents at the landfill for elevated levels of vinyl chloride, methane, and hydrogen sulfide. No observed release of hazardous substances to the ambient air from on-site sources is known or suspected to have occurred, and no impacts to nearby residential populations or sensitive environments are known or suspected.

The available file material indicates that the property is an active site under the MA DEP and is currently being monitored under the supervision of the MA DEP.

SAND Fact Sheet Last Updated on: 12 March 2001